Reflections’ Promise

To help all students explore their own thoughts, feelings and ideas, develop artistic literacy, increase confidence and find a love for learning that will help them become more successful in school and in life.
How Does It Work?

Students **REFLECT** on a common theme and use their imagination to **CREATE** original works of art.

All participants **CELEBRATE** and share their artistic works with their family, school and community.
2019-2020 Program Theme

An annual theme is determined by the National PTA Reflections Theme Search Contest.

Students may enter their theme idea according to their State PTA Reflections program guidelines.
Follow these steps to host
THE BEST REFLECTIONS PROGRAM EVER!

1. **Register at PTA.org/Reflections** to share your participation with National PTA.
2. **Encourage** ALL STUDENTS to participate.
3. **Coordinate** the review of student works.
4. **Celebrate** your students.
5. **Wrap up** and report success.
Step 1. Getting Started

- Register Your PTA in the National PTA Reflections program at [PTA.org/Reflections](PTA.org/Reflections).
- Access program materials, deadlines and instructions provided by your [State PTA’s Reflections program](StatePTAsReflections).
- Recruit a Co-Chair and committee to support you.
- Recruit a team of experienced arts judges to review student works.
Celebrate the Arts in Education!

National Arts in Education Week (September 8–14, 2019) is the perfect time to kick-off your program and announce the program’s theme: Look Within. Share your program kick-off activities with thousands of program leaders across the country using #PTAReflections and #ArtsEdWeek on social media.

National Arts and Humanities Month (October) is the perfect time for PTA to offer time, space and materials for students to participate in the arts. Share your support of family arts events, student clubs and visiting artists using #PTAReflections and #ShowYourArt.
Keep track of important dates

Customize your checklist:

✔ Submission deadline
✔ Judging Period
✔ Celebration event date
Recruit Volunteers

Delegate tasks to your committee:

- Promote Program
- Coordinate Judging
- Coordinate Recognition
- Host Celebration Event
Step 2. Promote Your Program

- Distribute rules and entry forms.
- Offer one or more of the available categories and divisions.
  - **CATEGORIES:** Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography, Visual Arts
  - **DIVISIONS:** Special Artist, Primary, Intermediate, Middle School, High School
Entry Form

Complete before distribution - >

Student Information - >

Student & Parent Signatures - >

Submission Category & Division - >

Title & Details of Submission - >

Artist Statement - >
Announce Your *Call For Entries!*  

Include your program’s…
- Submission deadline & location
- Where to find rules and forms
- Who to contact with question
- Save the Date for Celebration Event

Learn more and get involved! [PTA.org/Reflections](https://www.pta.org/Reflections)
Share Your Ideas!
How will your PTA promote Reflections to students, parents, teachers, school leaders and community supporters?
Step 3. Coordinate Judging

- Collect submissions by category and division.
- Scan submissions for completeness and qualification.
- Provide judges with instructions and materials.
  - **IN PERSON**: Display works on tables. Tri-Fold entry form and instruct judges to rotate around the room and complete their score card.
  - **ONLINE**: Share digital copies of student work using a cloud based file sharing platform.

To hide names and show title and artist statement, 
**Tri-Fold Student Entry Form.**
Solo and ensemble works of all dance styles are accepted. Entrant must be the choreographer and may also be the performer, or one of the performers. If background music is used, cite it on the entry form.

VIDEO
- File must not exceed 5 min. and 1 GB in size.
- Accepted formats: AVI, FLV, WMV, MOV, MP4.
Accepted short film styles include: Animation, narrative, documentary, experimental or media presentation. Entrant must be the screenwriter, cinematographer, editor and producer. If background music is used, cite it on the entry form.

**VIDEO**
- File must not exceed 5 min. and 1 GB in size.
- Accepted formats: AVI, FLV, WMV, MOV, MP4.
- Use of PowerPoint is prohibited.
Literature

Accepted forms of fiction and nonfiction include: Prose, poetry, reflective essay, screen play and play script, narrative, and short story. Entrants may write in their primary language as long as an interpretive English translation is also attached. Use of copyrighted material is prohibited.

WRITING

- Must not exceed 2,000 words.
- May be handwritten or typed.
- Single-sided print on 8 ½x11” paper.
- PDF file.
Music Composition

All music styles and combinations of instrumentation are accepted. Entrant must be the composer and may also be the performer, or one of the performers. Use of copyrighted material is prohibited.

**AUDIO**
- File must not exceed 5 min. and 1 GB in size.
- Accepted formats: MP3, WMA, WAV, ACC, FLAC.

**NOTATION**
- Only required for middle and high school divisions.
- Score/tablature in PDF format.
Photography

Photo must be a single print/digital image. Collages and collections of photos are not accepted. Entrant must be the photographer and may use a variety of digital editing techniques including but not limited to, multiple exposure, negative sandwich and photogram.

PRINT
- Must be no smaller than 3x5 inches and no larger than 8x10 inches.
- Accepted print formats: Mounted on mat or poster board no larger than 11x14 inches.
- Framed prints are not accepted.

DIGITAL IMAGE
- Dimensions must be at least 640x960 (pixels) and 300 dpi (resolution).
- Accepted file formats: JPEG, JPG, GIF, PNG.
Visual Arts

Works of both fine and design arts are accepted, including but not limited to:

- architectural drawing and models,
- ceramics, collage, computer generated images and graphics,
- crafts, drawing, fashion clothes and jewelry, fiber work, mixed media,
- painting, printmaking and sculpture.

2D WORKS
- Mounted on sturdy material.
- No larger than 24x30 inches with matting.
- Framed entries are not accepted.
- Include one digital image of artwork with your submission.

3D WORKS
- Include 3 digital images of artwork at different angles.
This **Special Artist Division** welcomes students from all grades and offers non-artistic accommodations for students to participate fully in PTA Reflections. **Student recognition and awards are announced as part of the Special Artist Division.**

**ACCOMODATIONS**

- Non-artistic accommodations (e.g. adaptive technology; transcribing; holding a camera)
- Assistants must refrain from being involved in the artistic process (e.g. developing an artist statement, choreography, music lyrics, storyboards, etc.)

Students who identify as having a disability and may receive services under IDEA or ADA: Section 504 may enter in the Special Artist Division **OR** grade division most closely aligned to their functional abilities.
Step 4. Celebrate Your Students

- Assign awards by category and division.
- Celebrate your students:
  a) Announce winners on social media #PTAReflections and school website.
  b) Offer awards from ShopPTA.com and donated prizes from community supporters.
  c) Host a student recognition event for families.
  d) Showcase student works at school and in the community.
- Advance finalists to the next level according to State PTA guidelines and deadlines.
Share Your Ideas!
How will you plan to recognize students for their participation and achievements in the arts?
Opportunity for Regional, State and National Awards & Recognition!

Submissions are advanced to the next level according to deadlines and guidelines provided by your State PTA’s Reflections Program.

For more information on council, district and region level programs, visit your State PTA program page.
**Student Entry Portal**

National PTA Submission Instructions

1. Work with your State PTA Leaders to confirm their use of the Student Entry Portal and to secure permission for use.

2. Follow the prompts to submit an entry:
   - **Task 1:** Complete an Entry Form.
   - **Task 2:** Upload digital copy of work.

3. For confirmation, send a list of advancing submissions to your State PTA.
National Awards and Exhibits

Student Arts Showcase and Exhibit
January 2020
U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC

Announcement
May 2020
PTA.org/Reflections

Celebration Event and Exhibit
June 2020
Annual National PTA Convention
Step 5. Wrap Up

- Upon registration, receive a post-program survey to share feedback and report participation totals.
- Use the acknowledgement letter at PTA.org/ReflectionsToolkit to thank student and parent leaders, school personnel, submission reviewers and community businesses for their support.
- Return non-advancing works.
- Gather feedback from participants, attendees, volunteers and partners. Host a debrief with your committee and share successes at PTA and school meetings.
- Record notes and contacts for next year’s program chair.